



# MARK MILLER

## WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

September 25, 2007

The overwhelming conclusion among scientists who have researched the impact of green house gasses in the earth's atmosphere is that human activities over the past 100 years have increased the likelihood that we will experience permanent global climate change if we continue on our present course.

While there is little doubt that we are contributing to global warming by increasing green house gasses emitted to the atmosphere, the climate impacts on Wisconsin are more difficult to forecast. What is known is that melting of the polar ice caps will result in a sea level rise of 12 to 40 feet, inundating or significantly impacting most of the costal cities of the world.

This is a challenge of unprecedented scale in human history. Will we take action to assume responsibility for our actions or will we continue to indulge ourselves regardless of the consequences to future generations?

SB81, the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, sets the framework for Wisconsin to assume responsibility for its role in contributing to greenhouse gasses by setting a target of returning to Wisconsin's green house gas emission levels of 1990 by the year 2020 and establishing a mechanism for accomplishing that goal.

This is the same goal as adopted by California under a Republican governor and a Democratic legislature. Similar proposals were adopted in NJ, FL, WA, and ME.

Some argue that we should not take action because this is a global problem that should be addressed at the national level. I agree this is a national issue, but the US is the only industrialized country that has failed to assume responsibility for its contribution to green house gases. Faced with a federal failure to act, the individual states are taking action to assume responsibility for their own greenhouse gas emissions. Wisconsin, consistently a leader in environmental policy, should be among them.

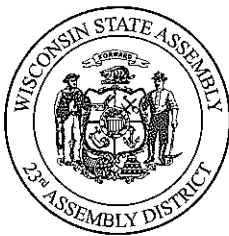
The window of opportunity to control our destiny is unknown. Some have suggested we have fifty years. More believe it is as short as ten to twenty years. Some have suggested it is already too late. It is our moral responsibility to act promptly.

It is my hope that this committee will report SB81 with a bipartisan recommendation for passage.

Mark Miller

Wisconsin State Senate  
District 16





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Global warming has been a much discussed issue in recent year's as rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) have corresponded with a recent rise in global temperatures. This has caused some scientists and other concerned citizens to call for action to stop the rise in CO2. Senate Bill 81 is an effort to bring about a decrease in CO2 emissions in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, SB 81 will have no impact on the issue of global warming, but will have a detrimental effect on our state's economy in the form of higher prices for consumers, lower wages and possibly lost jobs.

## Consider the following:

- Even if we could reduce CO2 emission in Wisconsin to zero, there would be no measurable effect on background atmospheric levels of CO2, and therefore no impact on global temperatures. If implemented today, it is estimated that this bill would result in about a 16% reduction in CO2 emissions in our state, even less significant.

## In light of the above, please consider that:

- The bill would require that a very large and expensive bureaucracy be set up within the Department of Natural Resources.
- The bill would require manufacturing plants, electrical utilities and other businesses that emit CO2 reduce their output by "market based compliance mechanisms. Presumably this would mean cutting production, installing expensive CO2 capture equipment, paying a tax or buying carbon credits. Only two of the above would actually result in a decrease of CO2 emissions.
- Forcing businesses to cut production or increase expenses will mean lost jobs and higher prices, putting Wisconsin at a disadvantage in competing with other states. A consensus of a number of economic models shows that SB 81 would cause electricity prices to rise by more than 40%, gasoline prices by about 50% and a reduction in the standard of living for Wisconsin households of \$2,000-\$5,000 per year.
- SB 81 does not mention removing the moratorium on nuclear generating plants in Wisconsin or offer any incentives for utilities to consider this option. **Doubling the amount of electricity produced by nuclear energy in Wisconsin from the current 20% to 40% of the total would result in a reduction of CO2 emissions by more than 12 million tons per year.**
- Rising levels of atmospheric CO2 is a global problem that will take global efforts to address. If there is to be legislation it should be at the federal level with meaningful international cooperation.
- Wisconsin has long been a leader in fighting air and water pollution and must continue to lead. However, that leadership must make sense. In this case, individual states taking measures to address a global problem will not be effective. We will only hurt our own economy while background atmospheric levels of CO2 will not be affected.





**Testimony of Wisconsin Farmers Union  
on behalf of WFU membership**



Presented by WFU Board Member Patty Edelburg to the

**Wisconsin State Senate Environment & Natural  
Resources Committee**

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Madison, WI

Senator Miller and members of the Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, Senate Bill 81. I am Patty Edelburg of the Wisconsin Farmers Union, here on behalf of WFU President Sue Beitlich and our members.

In addition to being a member of the Wisconsin Farmers Union board of directors, I am a fourth generation dairy farmer from Scandinavia, Wisconsin, in Portage County. In my part of the state, climate change is having a visible effect on agriculture. Farmers continue to suffer from weather-related disasters, each year seemingly worse than the one before. Weather has become more unstable and unpredictable, and for farmers, who rely so much on the weather, this is a serious issue.

Over the last several years, many farmers have had to feed their winter hay in late summer and early fall, due to the serious drought conditions we've experienced throughout the state. This process then creates feed shortages in the winter and extra expenses for farmers during the cold months.

One glaring example of weather unpredictability is the recent drought disaster in many western Wisconsin counties, followed by sudden flooding disasters in several of those same counties. Again, as farmers, we rely on the weather for our livelihoods, and climate change has an enormous impact on our ability to compete in the marketplace.

Wisconsin Farmers Union supports the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, and is pleased that it provides for a "cap-and-trade" type system, which draws on the power of the market to reduce pollution in a cost-effective and flexible manner. This type of system was first applied to air pollutants through the Clean Air Act amendments, which established a cap-and-trade system to limit emissions of sulfur dioxide, the primary cause of acid rain. The program was a tremendous success, allowing companies to reduce their emissions at a fraction of the expected cost. Using this approach to reduce emissions of heat-trapping gases would help curb global warming at the lowest possible cost.

Wisconsin Farmers Union is pleased that the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act includes this type of flexibility for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The bill contains rules on market-based compliance mechanisms, which include arrangements that allow sources to satisfy emissions cap requirements by buying emission credits from a source, which may be outside the state, that reduces its emissions by more than is otherwise required. While the bill allows for emission

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credits from sources outside the state, Wisconsin Farmers Union would like to see those sources limited to within the United States.

A key advantage of a cap-and-trade system over other emission reduction strategies is that it gives companies the flexibility to achieve their emission targets in the most affordable way possible, while setting a clear limit on overall emissions. Since the cap is fixed, the environmental outcome is guaranteed.

Agriculture has an important role to play in developing solutions to climate change and its global impact. Farmers Union is doing its part to help facilitate the trading of carbon emissions credits through Farmers Union's Carbon Credit Program, a voluntary program that allows agricultural producers and landowners to earn income by storing carbon in their soil through no-till crop production, long-term grass seeding practices, forestry, and methane capture projects.

Carbon storage, or "sequestration", helps reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Carbon dioxide is one of six "greenhouse gases" that trap heat in the atmosphere, producing an increase in the temperature of the earth or "global warming," according to scientists. Farmers Union has earned approval from the Chicago Climate Exchange to aggregate carbon credits. Farmers Union enrolls producer acreages of carbon projects into blocks of credits that are traded on the Exchange, much like other agricultural commodities are traded.

Large companies and other entities purchase credits daily on the Exchange to offset their own carbon emissions into the atmosphere. Some have signed on to the Kyoto Treaty and are required to reduce emissions or buy offsetting credits. Once the credits are sold, producers earn income based on the acres they have enrolled.

According to the National Energy Information Center, greenhouse gases have increased by about 25 percent since large-scale industrialization began around 150 years ago. In the U.S., greenhouse gas emissions occur mostly from energy use driven largely by economic growth, electricity generation, and weather patterns affecting heating and cooling needs. Globally, the U.S. represents only four percent of the world's population, yet produces about 25 percent of carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels.

There is growing public concern that global climate change may be responsible for more severe hurricanes, shrinking polar ice and glaciers, droughts and floods, and other disruptions in our climate. Increasing energy prices are also peaking the public's interest in renewable fuels, alternative energy sources, energy conservation, and other practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As stewards of the land, Farmers Union members want to help protect the environment and our natural resources.

In the greenhouse gas debate, the concept of emissions caps and higher costs of carbon offsets may eventually provide the incentives to more efficiently use energy, similar to the successes of the aforementioned Clean Air Act amendments in reducing acid rain. In addition, increased energy efficiency and possibly the hydrogen economy may further reduce carbon emissions.

In the meantime, if agricultural producers can adopt economically successful and environmentally sound land management practices that reduce or offset carbon emissions, and can get paid for it, it creates a "win-win" for all involved, with the biggest beneficiaries being our environment and our land.

We are encouraged by the long-term vision of the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, and we urge the





Wisconsin State Legislature to pass this important legislation and help lay the foundation for a bright environmental future for our great state of Wisconsin.

Again, thank you for allowing us the opportunity to present our support for a healthier environment and for the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act. Wisconsin Farmers Union looks forward to continuing to work with all our legislators as we partner to build a promising future for agriculture in our state.



I am Sr. Janet Weyker, Director of the Racine Dominican Eco-Justice Center and a board member of the Wisconsin Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign. I am here today to speak in support of SB 81, the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act.

As a Racine Dominican I am one of over 180 Sisters and 70 Associates that are **committed to truth** and **compelled to justice**. Voting for measures that will ensure a safer climate is a matter of **acknowledging the truth** of what human activity is doing to the climate and a matter of **acting for justice** on behalf of Earth and all who live on the planet now and into the future.

We look to you as legislators to be courageous and forward in taking leadership to provide a safe and healthy climate, not only for human generations to come, but for all species and eco-systems that are dependant on a healthy environment.

To quote Thomas Berry, a geo-logian, educator, and leader in the care of Earth, "All human institutions, professions, programs, and activities must now be judged by the extent to which they **inhibit, ignore, or foster** a mutually-enhancing human-earth relationship." Let me repeat, "All human **institutions** (including legislatures, churches, schools) all **professions** (engineers, lawyers, economists, ministers, and teachers) all **programs** (whether financial, educational, social) and all **activities** ( building, buying, developing, traveling) must now be judged by the extent to which they inhibit, ignore or **foster** a mutually-enhancing human-earth relationship." It is not about what is good and comfortable for just **some** human beings while others are deprives of necessities for life. How will **we** of this generation be judged if we do not work for a sustainable relationship for all life systems including a **safe climate**?

I urge you to vote for the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act that will tighten regulations and reduce harmful emissions and pollutants into the atmosphere. I hope yours will **not** be the attitude of a woman I met several years ago when I attended a hearing about the Oak Creek power plant expansion. I asked her way she supported the addition of more coal burning units. Then I shared my concerns about the environment and the health problems connected with increased use of coal as an energy source. Her reply was, "Oh, baloney on the earth! My husband and I have worked hard all our lives to enjoy the conveniences we now have and want."

I believe we have a moral obligation to protect and care for Earth. I believe we need to live responsibly so that future generations of both human and other species will have what is required for life.

Thank you.



**September 25, 2007, Hearing on SB 81**  
**The Wisconsin Safe Climate Act**

My name is Wayne Stroessner and I am President of WICEC (Wisconsin Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign). Our group, as the name implies, is very concerned with climate change and global warming.

Personally,  
I drive a Toyota Prius (Hybrid)  
My wife drives a Honda Civic Hybrid  
We use an electric lawn mower powered with rechargeable batteries  
We installed 7.2 kW array of photovoltaics on our rooftop and since June 1st it has produced 3,500 kWh of electrical energy and saved 5949 pounds of CO2

I have read Senate Bill 81 and WICEC fully supports what is in the bill. However, there are some items that could be considered to improve the bill.

1. The bill emphasizes tracking down carbon dioxide emitters and it places restrictions on those who pollute, but I was unable to find regulations for those who do not conserve energy or use it inefficiently. For example: Recently I visited the Panera Bakery-Cafe in Mequon, Wisconsin. The sun was shining brightly and there were many windows to allow the sun to light up the establishment. Yet I was able to count 96 incandescent light bulbs that were turned on - all were 60 watts or more.

Because incandescent lights produce approximately 90 % heat and only 10 % light, they were heating the cafe which was already warmed by the hot sun and warm weather. At the same time, their air conditioner had to work overtime to try to cool the building. I sent a letter to the local manager and Panera's central office and suggested that they replace their inefficient light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs and also suggested that if all of their other 676 stores used the same amount of energy they would be able to save nearly \$405,600.00 annually. Their response was to continue as they were doing.

I feel that such use of energy is extremely wasteful and criminal and I would like to see something in your bill to cover such situations.

I noticed that the department and other state agencies "shall take action to reduce their greenhouse emissions" and are penalized from \$10 to \$25,000 for violations. This should also be applied to situations described above.

2. Bill 81 also suggests the use of:

**Conservation;**  
**Efficiency; and**  
**Renewables**

But it does not mention the benefits of **Distributed Energy** in which electricity can be

produced at the site of use. Electrical energy from methane from farm manure or landfill gases can be produced on site and the excess heat can also be for other purposes. Better yet, the use of fuel cells to convert the methane to electricity and heat can be done more efficiently than by conversion with an internal combustion engine. Fuel cells also produce fewer pollutants than internal combustion engines. At the same time, distributed energy production does not require more transmission lines.

The establishment of a **Hydrogen Economy** should likewise be a goal for helping to save our Earth from global warming.

WICEC is strongly against Uranium/Plutonium Nuclear Energy, but it asks that staff investigates the possibilities of **Thorium Nuclear Energy** in which Thorium is used as an alternative to Uranium and Plutonium.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE POLICY GOALS TO WHICH THORIUM IS WELL SUITED:**

• **PLUTONIUM DISPOSITION**

—destroying and degrading of weapons-grade plutonium.

• **PROLIFERATION**

—resistant fuels for developing nations—ensuring global security.

• **NEXT GENERATION FUEL CYCLES**

—extracting maximum energy while minimizing waste.

I will gladly send a list of websites for the **HYDROGEN ECONOMY** or for the **THORIUM NUCLEAR ENERGY**—most members of the Energy Committee have already received copies.

Wayne Stroëssner

<wstroessner@wi.rr.com>



# Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

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September 24, 2007

### Testimony of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation on Senate Bill 81---Wisconsin Safe Climate Act

Good morning. My name is George Meyer and I am the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. Joining me this morning is Don Hammes, a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation and Chair of the Federation's Wetlands Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Dane County Conservation League.

We are here today on behalf of the WWF to testify in support of Senate Bill 81. The Federation is the state's largest conservation organization and represents 157 hunting, fishing and trapping groups in Wisconsin.

The issue of Climate Change is critically important to those that hunt, fish and trap. There is no group of individuals that have chronicled the substantial weather related changes to the outdoor than sportsmen and women. Many of our members have spent forty to fifty years outdoors and can attest to the great changes that have taken place in their lifetime including the shortened ice fishing and snowmobiling seasons, the need to wear short sleeves during the November gun deer season or the fact that severe cold temperatures and snow no longer keep the northern deer herd in check.

Our members are greatly concerned about the effects of greenhouse gases on the future of fish and wildlife and their habitat in this state and call on the Legislature to adopt Senate Bill 81 in the near future.

According to a recent poll commissioned by the National Wildlife Federation, sixty-seven percent of sportsmen identify global warming as an urgent problem the needs immediate action. Eighty-two percent believe the nation can invest in clean, renewable energy technologies that create jobs while reducing global warming pollution. Eighty percent of hunters and anglers surveyed believe the U.S. should be a world leader in addressing global warming and eighty-two percent believe that solving this problem should be a priority.

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Don.

Good morning, let me address a few of the major actual and projected impacts of climate change on fish and wildlife habitat in Wisconsin:

1. Long-term studies have shown a decrease from 120 days of ice cover on southern Wisconsin lakes to less than 90 days, most recently 60 days or less. That is very significant if you are a Wisconsin ice angler.
2. It is projected that without significant emission reductions, the Great Lakes will be lowered four to eight feet.
3. Likewise it is projected that there will likely be a significant reduction in Wisconsin's valuable inland lakes
4. There are professional projections that up to 69% of the Midwestern prairie potholes will dry up leading to a major reduction of migratory waterfowl populations. Many of Wisconsin's shallow marshes will disappear.
5. It is projected that there will be substantial warming of Wisconsin's wonderful cold water streams with the loss of 50% of our rainbow trout and 100% of our brook trout.
6. It is projected that 53% of the current migratory songbird species will disappear from the state including the Pine Siskin, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, the Purple Finch and the Evening Grosbeak. While there will be new species migrating to the state, there is a projected net decline of 29% of songbird species in Wisconsin.
7. It is projected that there will be a 50-70% loss of sugar maple, aspen, birch, beech and pine in the state. It is projected that we will lose 40 to 50% of our forests. These forests are extremely important to Wisconsin's economy.

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These are just some of the projected impacts of climate change on Wisconsin. Climate change will cause significant ecological and economic disruptions to our state.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests that you adopt the requirements for the reduction of green house gases that are called for in Senate Bill 81.

These are achievable and can be done in an economically efficient manner. There are many low hanging fruit reductions that can be done in the early years while the development of new technologies will allow us to make the deeper long term reductions while still allowing our economy to grow. Since

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greenhouse gases accumulate in the atmosphere, the longer we wait, the deeper the future reductions will have to be and the greater the environmental and economic disruptions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify here today on behalf of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Submitted by George Meyer and Don Hammes, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation



Tony Uhl  
Junior at UW-Madison  
History and Environmental Studies Major  
Tony.uhl@gmail.com  
Statement in Support of the Safe Climate Act

Hi. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you this morning. I'm sure everyone here has been inundated with facts and statistics, therefore my portion will be a slight departure, being that I am a history major and feel a sense of dread once numbers, stats, and formulas start coming my way.

Aldo Leopold wrote, "There are some who can live without wild things and some who cannot." Ask yourself, which person are you and most importantly what type do you want your great-great-great children to be? If they are raised in a state that increasingly harms its environment through continuously elevating levels of global warming pollution, will they even have an opportunity to appreciate the beauty Wisconsin has to offer, or will it be changed into something foreign, something not Wisconsin?

Aldo Leopold never directly addressed the issue of Global Warming but his desires for a natural and native Wisconsin will become a faint dream of the past if Global Warming continues unchecked. Global Warming was a soft whisper in the 1940's but it has evolved into, as I see it, the number one global issue to date, or at least of my generation. As a co-coordinator for Big Red Go Green (BRGG), the campaign focusing on Global Warming, under WISPIRG (Wisconsin Student Public Interest Research Group), we work very hard on energy reducing competitions, eco-parties, and public visibility on campus and in the community. Many of our projects focus on the student body but we are also working closely with University Administration on their WE



CONSERVE initiative to reduce energy 20% by 2010, for which we are creating a student advisory board.

WISPIRG and BRGG are taking steps everyday, following the 'Wisconsin Idea,' to create a population of students that will see the potential threats of Global Warming and act accordingly. Although we strive to have a large impact, our power to alter the current destiny of Global Warming is minimal. Use your positions of social responsibility to have that impact, to be a leader, and send a message. As a small voice representing thousands of students at UW- Madison, I implore you to pass the Safe Climate Act so that your great-great-great grandchildren can grow up in the native and natural Wisconsin, one unaffected by Global Warming, which Aldo Leopold loved with every fiber of this being.

Thank you

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MEMORANDUM

September 25, 2007

To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

From: Edward J. Wilusz  
Vice President, Government Relations

Subject: **Senate Bill 81**

Senate Bill 81 would set up a regulatory process intended to reduce statewide emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2020. The Wisconsin Paper Council is opposed to Senate Bill 81.

To provide some background, Wisconsin is the nation's leading papermaking state and has been for over 50 years. The paper industry manufactures products that are made from renewable resources, are highly recyclable, and store carbon.

Our industry is also very energy intensive. We are the largest industrial energy user in the state. We are also the largest industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emitter in state. This means that CO<sub>2</sub> reduction mandates, such as those in SB 81, would directly impact our industry.

Our members are not sitting idly by on the energy and CO<sub>2</sub> emission fronts. Wausau Paper has reduced energy use per ton of production by 23% since 2001. Stora Enso has a comprehensive energy conservation program that has resulted in energy reductions of 14% per ton of production and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by about 700,000 tons. Packaging Corporation of America recovers bio-gas from its wastewater treatment plant, which reduces natural gas usage and 75,000 tons of greenhouse gases annually. Flambeau River Paper is on track to become energy self-sufficient, with all on-site energy generated from bio-fuels, resulting in a carbon neutral facility.

Our concerns with SB 81 are on two levels. On a broader policy level, the paper industry operates in a global competitive marketplace. Climate change is a global issue. Meaningful responses must be made on a global scale. Narrow responses are likely to impose economic costs for environmental benefits that are so small as to not be measurable.



Similarly, all sectors of the economy emit greenhouse gases and, to the extent that a fair global approach can be developed, all sectors of the economy must be part of the solution. According to 2003 estimates from the World Resources Institute, electric utilities contribute 35% of statewide greenhouse gas emissions, transportation contributes 24%, industry contributes about 16% (both on-site energy generation and process emissions), agriculture contributes 9%, residential about 9%, commercial 5%, and waste about 3%. All of these sectors have a role to play in any policy solution.

Looking at the details of SB 81, we have several questions and concerns. The bill requires DNR to establish a statewide greenhouse gas emission limit equal to 1990 levels. The regulatory framework for meeting the statewide limit consists of DNR identifying significant sources, requiring emission monitoring and reporting of these significant sources, preparing a plan to achieve the maximum emission reduction from significant sources, and establishing emission limits and reduction measures. The emission limits and reduction measures do not appear to be limited to significant sources. However, DNR rules must ensure that greenhouse gas reductions are permanent, quantifiable, verifiable, and enforceable.

The likely practical effect of focusing the reduction requirements on significant sources that must monitor and report, and sources that must quantify and verify emission reductions, is that the reduction requirements likely could only be applied to traditional stationary emission sources – utilities and industries. It would seem to be impractical to require monitoring and reporting or to ensure that reductions are permanent, quantifiable and verifiable from transportation, agricultural, residential, commercial, or waste sources. The result would be that two sectors that account for about half of statewide greenhouse gas emissions would be responsible for achieving the entire statewide reduction. This would be unfair and a prescription for failure.

SB 81, like most other greenhouse gas reduction proposals, keys off of 1990 emissions. The reality is that, despite estimates by some groups, nobody really knows what 1990 emissions were and DNR's best estimate would be nothing more than a guess. Yet, on the compliance and enforcement side, significant sources would be required to monitor emissions. This creates a disconnect between the way the limit is set and the way it is enforced, which violates one of the most basic tenets of fair environmental regulation. It should also be noted that CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring systems are expensive and not typically in place at sources outside the utility industry.

A positive concept included in the bill is that of technological feasibility and cost-effectiveness. From a practical standpoint, for industrial sources, technological

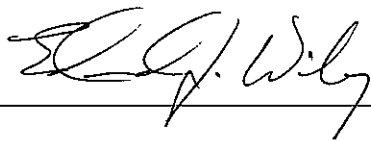


feasibility isn't the issue. There are plenty of technologically feasible options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The concern is cost. The inclusion of a cost-effectiveness test is positive, but the definition is troubling. Cost-effectiveness is based on the cost per ton of emissions reduced. Although used in other regulatory programs, this approach can have the effect of making a reduction option look viable, when the actual total cost is not.

We cannot provide a reliable estimate of what compliance with SB 81 might cost the paper industry – with program details left to DNR there are simply too many unanswered questions. However, since over half of our industry's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions result from the combustion of coal, it is logical to conclude that modifications to boilers would be necessary. Boiler replacements or rebuilds are extremely expensive – \$25 million and up per project. With dozens of coal fired boilers in the industry, the total cost could be extremely high.

The bulk of the emission reduction burden would likely fall on the utility sector. We have no reliable estimates of the total cost of compliance for utilities or the electric rate increases that would accompany these costs, but we anticipate that rate increases would be substantial. On a regional basis, Wisconsin has already gone from being a low-cost energy state to being above average in cost. This is due, in part, to efforts to rebuild and improve our energy infrastructure and improve electric reliability. Adding significant greenhouse gas compliance costs to the picture could easily push annual electric rate increases well into double digits. This is a cost increase that an energy intensive industry like ours could not absorb and remain competitive.

We urge you to not support SB 81.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. G. Wilby", is written over a horizontal line.

rg





## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WISCONSIN

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September 25, 2007

To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Re: Support for Senate Bill 81

While the political arena is still divided, scientific circles agree that global warming is a reality. Human activity - especially within the United States - is changing global climate patterns in a way that will be devastating to our planet. The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin believes the measures proposed in SB 81, the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, will help to reverse the effects of global warming.

Since 1990, Wisconsin emissions of carbon dioxide - the primary cause of global warming - have increased by 25%, significantly more than the increase of emissions in the nation as a whole. Under the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act, a mandatory reporting system will track and monitor greenhouse gas emission levels in the state. A cap and trade market system and a broad requirement allowing for flexibility in implementing reduction programs will allow Wisconsin to reduce emissions at the least possible cost.

While sparking needed environmental change in our nation, the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act also aims to protect resources for the benefit of Wisconsin's future generations. Continuing climate change would be detrimental to myriad native plants and animals in Wisconsin, causing major problems for both agriculture and forestry. Globally, recent summers have testified to the increase in violent weather systems and vicious and deadly heat waves, also associated with global warming. Climate change is also linked to numerous public health risks, including an increase in the spread of disease and famine.

Not only is a healthy environment at stake in Wisconsin; so is a stable, sustainable economy. A phenomenal economic crisis is possible if Wisconsin does not move away from carbon emitting, old technology coal-fired power plants. By addressing this problem now, Wisconsin consumers will save in the future. Wisconsin is also uniquely positioned to profit from a global warming solution, with strong biotech and biofuel industries. Pollution control is a growth industry, and the state will benefit immensely by encouraging sustainable technologies.

Following a two year study on Wisconsin's Energy Policy, a united League membership updated our positions on Global Warming and Electric Energy Policy. Specifically, we support the Wisconsin Safe Climate Act because:

- SB 81 inventories the greenhouse gases that are causing warmer temperatures and harming wildlife habitat and Wisconsin agriculture.
- SB 81 begins reducing global warming emissions by an achievable 2% per year to reach 1990 levels by 2020.
- SB 81 encourages and accelerates investments in energy efficiency and the development of clean renewable energy resources. Wind and biomass for energy generation can provide a cash crop to farms and revitalize rural communities.
- Through this legislation and the work of the Governor's Global Warming Task Force, Wisconsin can be a regional leader in smart energy solutions, while surrounding states are also working on climate action plans.

While the federal administration has repeatedly refused to confront global warming, state level government around the country is leading the way. We urge you to vote in favor of SB 81.

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.



2. The second part of the report deals with the economic situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

3. The third part of the report deals with the social situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the cultural situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the political situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the military situation of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the foreign relations of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the internal security of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

9. The ninth part of the report deals with the education of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

10. The tenth part of the report deals with the health of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

11. The eleventh part of the report deals with the environment of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

12. The twelfth part of the report deals with the sports of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.

13. The thirteenth part of the report deals with the leisure of the country and the position of the various groups of the population.



Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2007

From: Steve Barney  
1260 Elmwood Ave., Apt 8  
Oshkosh, WI 54901-2780  
Email: [barnes992001@yahoo.com](mailto:barnes992001@yahoo.com)

Subject: Testimony for Public Hearing regarding Wisconsin "Safe Climate Act" (2007 Senate Bill 81)  
To: Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Committee Members:

Exactly 2 weeks ago, on Sept 11, the City Council of my home town, the City of Oshkosh, resoundingly passed **Resolution 07-262** ([attached](#)), which directs the Mayor and City Manager to sign the **US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement** ([attached](#)). Thus Oshkosh has become the 15th city in the State of Wisconsin (see [attached](#)), altogether representing about 1/4 of the population of the state, to essentially "ratify" the Kyoto Protocol. As of last Friday, 681 US cities have signed that agreement, representing about 1/4 of the US population (see [attached](#) press release from US Conference of Mayors). All these cities have pledged to strive to reduce their Greenhouse gas emissions by 7% below 1990 levels by 2012, just as the US would have been required to do, if it had ratified the Kyoto Protocol. In part, the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement states ...

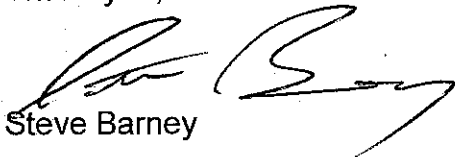
In 2005, The US Conference of Mayors, representing 1,139 US cities with a population of 30,000 or more, passed a resolution endorsing the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement ([attached](#)). Their stated reasons for endorsing the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, as given in their resolution, include ...

In a recent press release from Wisconsin Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton ([attached](#), along with additional related attachments), she and State Representative Gordon Hintz, of Oshkosh, thanked and congratulated the Mayor and City Council for joining the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Here's a quote:

"With a vacuum of leadership at the national level, it becomes clear that cities and states must lead the way," Lt. Governor Lawton said. "I thank and congratulate my colleagues in Oshkosh - Mayor Tower and all the members of the City Council - for making this important commitment."

Later today, I hope I can make an enthusiastic citizen statement to the Oshkosh City Council, and report that you are listening to us. Please listen to the City of Oshkosh, and the many other Wisconsin signatories to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. Please vote in support of Senate Bill 81, the Safe Climate Act.

Thank you,



Steve Barney

Attachments:

- City of Oshkosh Resolution 07-262
- US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
- List of Wisconsin cities that are signatories to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
- US Conference of Mayors Resolution Endorsing US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- Press release from US Conference of Mayors, "600 Mayors in All 50 States and Puerto Rico Take Action to Reduce Global Warming," July 13, 2007
- Press release from Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton, "Lt. Governor Lawton, Representative Hintz Congratulate Oshkosh Mayor, Council for Leadership on Climate Protection Oshkosh Becomes 15th Wisconsin City to Sign Mayors' Protection Agreement," September 13, 2007
- NLGA Energy Independence and Climate Protection Resolution (cited in Lt. Governor Lawton's press release)
- "Lieutenant Governors Pursue Energy Programs," *State News Magazine*, Sept 2007 (news report about NLGA Energy Independence and Climate Protection Resolution)
- "Not Too Hot to Handle: States Warm Up to Actions on Climate Change," By Doug Myers, *State News Magazine*, Sept 2007 (feature article related to NLGA Resolution and States action on climate change)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

07-262

RESOLUTION

(CARRIED 5-2 LOST        LAID OVER        WITHDRAWN       )

PURPOSE: APPROVE US MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

INITIATED BY: MAYOR TOWER

BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Oshkosh that the attached U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement is approved and the proper City officials are authorized and directed to sign the signature page as attached.



**The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**  
(As endorsed by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, Chicago, 2005)

- A. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels;
- B. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that 1) includes clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and
- C. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities such as:
  - 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan.
  - 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities;
  - 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit;
  - 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in "green tags", advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology;
  - 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money;
  - 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use;
  - 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system;
  - 8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel;
  - 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production;
  - 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community;
  - 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>; and
  - 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.



## The U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement – Signature Page

You have my support for the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add my comments in support of the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. We will add these to the Website *(optional)*:

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Please return completed form at your earliest convenience to:  
**The U.S. Conference of Mayors**  
**Climate Protection Center**

By Mail:  
1620 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006

By Fax: (202) 429-0422

By e-mail: [brosenberg@usmayors.org](mailto:brosenberg@usmayors.org)

For more information: (202) 861-6782

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**WI Cities That Have Signed the US  
Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**

<b>Mayor</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Population</b>
Fred Schnook	Ashland	8,795
Michael Neitzke	Greenfield	36,059
John Antaramian	Kenosha	90,352
Mark Johnsrud	La Crosse	51,818
Dave Cieslewicz	Madison	208,054
Tom Barrett	Milwaukee	596,974
Jack Chiovero	New Berlin	38,220
Frank Tower	Oshkosh	62,916
Gary Becker	Racine	81,855
Don Richards	River Falls	13,019
	Stevens	
Andrew Halverson	Point	24,298
Irene Blakely	Washburn	2,298
Larry Nelson	Waukesha	64,825
Theresa Estness	Wauwatosa	47,271
Jeannette Bell	West Allis	61,254
<b>total population of signatories</b>		<b>1,252,802</b>
<b>Wisconsin population</b>		<b>5,556,506</b>
<b>proportion of Wisconsin population represented by signatories</b>		<b>23%</b>

Source: The U.S. Conference of Mayors,  
usmayors.org. Accessed Sept 24, 2007.







## 2005 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

### ENVIRONMENT

#### ENDORISING THE U.S. MAYORS CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities and the federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40 percent decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

**WHEREAS**, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sealevel rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to address climate disruption, went into effect in the 141 countries that have ratified it to date; 38 of those countries are now legally required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on average 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America, with less than five percent of the world's population, is responsible for producing approximately 25 percent of the world's global warming pollutants; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kyoto Protocol emissions reduction target for the U.S. would have been 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, many leading US companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the US to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and to promote sound investment decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments throughout the United States are adopting emission reduction targets and programs and that this leadership is bipartisan, coming from Republican and Democratic governors and mayors alike; and

**WHEREAS**, many cities throughout the nation, both large and small, are reducing global warming pollutants through programs that provide economic and quality of life benefits such as reduced energy bills, green space preservation, air quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices, and economic development and job creation through energy conservation and new energy technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement which, as amended at the 73rd Annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, reads: The U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement A. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels; B. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and C. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities such as: 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan. 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities; 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit; 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in "green tags", advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology; 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money; 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use; 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system; 8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel; 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production; 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community; 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>; and 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors endorses the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting and urges mayors from around the nation to join this effort.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The U.S. Conference of Mayors will work in conjunction with ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability and other appropriate organizations to track progress and implementation of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting.

[return to resolution index](#)

©2005 The U.S. Conference of Mayors  
Tom Cochran, Executive Director  
1620 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006  
Tel. 202.293.7330 ~ Fax 202.293.2352  
[info@usmayors.org](mailto:info@usmayors.org)



## **The United States Conference of Mayors**

1620 Eye Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006  
Phone (202) 293-7330 • Fax (202) 293-2352  
E-mail: [info@usmayors.org](mailto:info@usmayors.org) URL: [usmayors.org](http://usmayors.org)

For Immediate Release  
Date: July 13, 2007

Contact: Lina Garcia / Mayors Climate Protection Center  
202.861.6735 or [lgarcia@usmayors.org](mailto:lgarcia@usmayors.org)

### **600 Mayors in All 50 States and Puerto Rico Take Action to Reduce Global Warming**

**Washington, DC** – Today, 600 U.S. Mayors have signed The U.S. Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, an agreement where supporting mayors pledge to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. This agreement is the only climate protection agreement of its kind among U.S. elected officials. Cedar Rapids Mayor Kay Halloran became the 600<sup>th</sup> mayor to sign the agreement.

The rapidly growing support from mayors for this agreement is significant because more than two-thirds of the American population currently live in cities. "We're proud to have the support of 600 mayors from all 50 states sign this agreement but we won't stop until every U.S. mayor has joined the fight to protect our climate," said Conference President Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer. "The significant commitment by mayors to confront this global challenge is strong evidence of the growing political consensus from the local level to protect our climate now."

Conference Vice President Miami Mayor Manuel Diaz stated, "Mayors in Florida are attuned to the threats that global warming poses to cities especially coastal communities, that is why so many mayors in my state have joined the campaign to reduce global warming."

"City by city across America mayors are taking action. Isn't it time our Federal government joined the fray? Our grandchildren would appreciate it," said Conference Advisory Board Chair Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, who first launched the mayors climate agreement in 2005.

Conference Executive Director Tom Cochran added, "We left our historical 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting exceeding our aggressive goal to have 500 cities sign our climate agreement. Climate protection dominated our deliberations and we confirmed that Mayors are on the front lines in protecting the environment in American cities."

In early May, Conference President Palmer announced during a convening of international mayors in New York, that Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor became the 500<sup>th</sup> mayor to sign the agreement, further demonstrating the geographic support behind the agreement.

To view a list of mayors who are signatories to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, please visit [usmayors.org/climateprotection](http://usmayors.org/climateprotection).

###

[illegible]



Barbara Lawton

Media Room

**For Immediate Release**

**Thursday, September 13, 2007**

Robert Chappell, Lt. Governor's Office, 608-261-2165 or 608-219-4371

**Lt. Governor Lawton, Representative Hintz Congratulate Oshkosh Mayor, Council for  
Leadership on Climate Protection  
Oshkosh Becomes 15th Wisconsin City to Sign Mayors' Protection Agreement**

Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton today congratulated Oshkosh Mayor Frank Tower and the Oshkosh City Council for passing a resolution signing on to the United States Council of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

"With a vacuum of leadership at the national level, it becomes clear that cities and states must lead the way," Lt. Governor Lawton said. "I thank and congratulate my colleagues in Oshkosh - Mayor Tower and all the members of the City Council - for making this important commitment."

Oshkosh joins 667 cities, including 14 others in Wisconsin, to sign on to the agreement. The agreement, first presented in 2005, pledges mayors and city leaders to:

- \* Strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities, through actions ranging from anti-sprawl land-use policies to urban forest restoration projects to public information campaigns;
- \* Urge their state governments, and the federal government, to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol -- 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and
- \* Urge the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, which would establish a national emission trading system

Lt. Governor Lawton led a similar effort on the national level earlier this year. In her position as vice chair of the National Lieutenant Governor's Association, she authored and introduced the NLGA Energy Independence and Climate Protection Resolution, which garnered bipartisan support and overwhelming passage. A copy of the resolution is available at [www.ltgov.wisconsin.gov](http://www.ltgov.wisconsin.gov).

"America's dependence on petroleum - most of which we import from the most politically volatile regions of the world - threatens our national and economic security," Lt. Governor Lawton said. "By developing renewable energy sources, we create the potential to build our economy and create jobs for the future - not in desert oil fields or on offshore drilling rigs, but in our communities, right here in Wisconsin and around the United States. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Oshkosh to put Wisconsin in the lead."

"I'm proud of my neighbors in Oshkosh for taking the lead on this issue," said Representative Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh). "Energy independence is one of the most vital issues we'll face in the next decade, and leaders at every level of government and the private sector will have to tackle it head-on. I'm proud that my hometown has joined the fight."

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Printed: 9/24/2007



Barbara Lawton

Media Room

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**For Immediate Release  
Friday, July 27, 2007**

Robert Chappell, Lt. Governor's Office, 608-261-2165 or 608-219-4371

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### **NLGA Energy Independence and Climate Protection Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a collection of more than 600 scientists from 40 countries, reported in 2007 that the level of greenhouse gases in the world's atmosphere, including carbon dioxide are at the highest levels in more than 650,000 years; and

**WHEREAS**, greenhouse gas emissions grew by 20% in the United States over the last decade; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 90% of greenhouse gas emission in the United States result from the combustion of fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, many leading U.S. companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the U.S. to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk and to promote sound investment decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments throughout the United States, with bipartisan leadership, are adopting emission reduction targets and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, the reduction of greenhouse gases along with increases in energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy will increase our energy independence from the Middle East, create new jobs *and* save American citizens and businesses millions of dollars while significantly improving our quality of life;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the lieutenant governors of the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) shall:

- A. Encourage federal, state, and local governments to enact or promote policies and programs to meet or surpass the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012 and 60-80% below 1990 levels by 2050, including efforts to: reduce the United State's dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, more fuel-efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels; and
- B. Assess and review greenhouse gas emissions within their state operations, and in their

- community, and help outline and establish reductions targets; and
- C. Assist NLGA members who wish to educate the public on energy independence and methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- D. Engage schools, professional associations, businesses and industry in devising strategies to conserve energy, reduce greenhouse gas pollution and create new jobs through innovative energy technologies; and
- E. Encourage development of more regional collaborations between states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote the shared investment and information exchange about the next generation of renewable energy, conservation, and biofuels technologies; and
- F. Encourage the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits, and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and
- G. Encourage mayors to participate in the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; and
- H. Promote the increased use of clean, alternative energy by advocating development of renewable energy resources, and recovering landfill methane for energy production; and
- I. Encourage the federal government to adopt higher fuel economy standards for automobiles and trucks; and
- J. Practice and promote sustainable building practices and encourage the use of voluntary energy efficiency standards developed through an accredited standards organization.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That copies of this resolution be sent by the NLGA to the President of the United States, members of the United States House of Representatives Energy Committee and Caucus, members of the United States Senate Energy Committee and Caucus, and that NLGA make all state elected officials aware of passage of the resolution through a notice in StateNews magazine, and that NLGA further post the full text of the resolution to its web page making the resolution available at all times for all NLGA members, state elected official, and other interested parties.

**Sponsored by:** Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton (D-WI)

**Co – Sponsors:**

Lt. Governor James Aiona	(R-HI)
Lt. Governor Catherine Baker Knoll	(D-PA)
Lt. Governor John Bohlinger	(R-MT)
Lt. Governor Anthony Brown	(D-MD)
Lt. Governor John Carney	(D-DE)
Lt. Governor Diane Denish	(D-NM)
Lt. Governor Brian Dubie	(R-VT)
Senate President Beth Edmonds	(D – ME)
Lt. Governor Michael Fedele	(R-CT)
Lt. Governor John Garamendi	(D-CA)
Lt. Governor Patty Judge	(D-IA)
Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp	(R-FL)
Sec. of State Max Maxfield	(R-WY)
Lt. Governor Tim Murray	(D-MA)
Lt. Governor Brad Owen	(D-WA)
Lt. Governor Mark Parkinson	(D-KS)
Lt. Governor David Paterson	(D-NY)
Lt. Governor Patrick Quinn	(D-IL)
Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts	(D-RJ)
Lt. Governor Aito Sunia	(D-A.S.)

Passed July 27, 2007 in Williamsburg, VA



# conferencecalendar

## Congratulations to the Newest Class of BILLD Fellows



Photo courtesy of Eastman Kodak Company

This year's graduates of the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) are the 13th class of law-makers to complete the intensive five-day program in Madison, Wis.

The annual event helps develop lawmakers' leadership skills through a curriculum of professional development workshops and policy seminars. The Bowhay Institute is conducted by CSG's Midwestern Legislative Conference, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin's Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs.

Midwestern legislators are awarded BILLD fellowships through a nonpartisan, competitive selection process. Applications for next year's Bowhay Institute, which will be held Aug. 8-12, 2008, will be available in December. For more information, contact Laura A. Tomaka at 630-925-1922 or [ltomaka@csg.org](mailto:ltomaka@csg.org).

This year's class included Indiana Sen. Karen Tallian, South Dakota Sen. Sandy Jerstad, Minnesota Rep. Augustine "Willie" Dominguez, MLA Flor Marcelino of Man., Wisconsin Rep. Joan A. Ballweg, North Dakota Rep. Jasper Schneider, Kansas Rep. Mario Goico, Iowa Rep. Tami Wienceck, Minnesota Rep. Carol McFarlane, Iowa Rep. Andrew Wenthe, Nebraska Sen. Greg L. Adams, MLA Dustin Duncan of Saskatchewan, South Dakota Sen. Michael Vehle, South Dakota Sen. Tom Katus, Michigan Rep. Robert Dean, Iowa Sen. Staci Appel, Wisconsin Sen. Lena C. Taylor, North Dakota Sen. Dave Oehlke, Mike Petersen of Kansas, Illinois Rep. Deborah L. Graham, Kansas Rep. Raj Goyle, Ohio Rep. Jay P. Goyal, Wisconsin Rep. Louis J. Molepske Jr., Michigan Rep. Mark S. Meadows, Ohio Sen. Jason Wilson, MLA Andy Iwanchuk of Saskatchewan, North Dakota Rep. Patrick R. Hatlestad, Nebraska Sen. Tom Carlson, Ohio Rep. Kevin Bacon, Indiana Rep. Thomas P. Dermody, Minnesota Rep. John Berns, MPP Dave Levac of Ontario, Illinois Sen. Matt Murphy, Indiana Sen. Philip L. Boots, Michigan Rep. Kenneth B. Horn, and Nebraska Sen. Dave Pankonin. Not pictured is Illinois Sen. Kwame Raoul.

## Lieutenant Governors Pursue Energy Programs



The states' seconds-in-command are pursuing programs regarding energy, health and children as they welcome new officers to lead the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA). Thirty-one lieutenant governors gathered in Williamsburg, Va., for the NLGA Annual Meeting in July.

Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton had 20 lieutenant governors co-sponsor the Energy Independence and Climate Protection Resolution, pledging to use their offices for the goals of reducing energy dependence and gaining cleaner air. She will work to gain federal resources to help states fund incentives to bring the private sector into active partnership on the issue, according to the Wisconsin Radio Network.

Members also passed a resolution in Support of Mentorship youth, sponsored by Missouri Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder. The

measure encourages states to set up programs, like Missouri's, which enable state employees to serve as mentors.

Members also approved a Reduction of Phosphorous in Household Dishwashing Detergents resolution. NLGA will also continue its national health campaigns: "Ending Cervical Cancer in our Lifetime" and "Helping Americans Breathe Easier—Asthma Awareness."

NLGA Chairman Lt. Gov. John Cherry of Michigan praised the networking developed at NLGA meetings.

"The networking established at these meetings directly benefits every region of the country," he said. "Illinois Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn and I have worked on Great Lakes issues, and Vermont Lt. Gov. Brian Dubie has involved more than a half-dozen lieutenant governors in aerospace issues."

The NLGA Executive Committee was selected for 2007-2008:

- North Dakota Lt. Gov. Jack Dalrymple of North Dakota, center in photo, is the new chair; Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton is the new vice chair; and Virginia Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling is treasurer.
- Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, Arkansas Lt. Gov. Bill Halter and Florida Lt. Gov. Jeff Kottkamp were added as new members to the Executive Committee.





# NOT TOO HOT TO HANDLE

## States Warm Up to Actions on Climate Change

**States are beginning to recognize the impacts—both environmental and economic—of global climate change. Several states have begun to take action.**

By Doug Myers

The debate over global warming—more specifically, global climate change—has been settled. Scientists, the public, and even companies like Shell Oil, no longer dispute the reality of climate change, that human activity is the primary contributor or that something needs to be done about it.

As detailed in CSG's most recent report, *Trends in America: 10 Forces of Change States Can't Ignore*, federal action on global warming is mired in debate, though it is slowly gaining momentum in Congress, and weaker than many states would prefer. States, however, recognize the need to push for action and many already have taken steps to counter global warming.

States face many challenges, but some are confronting global warming through various programs. Other states are considering how to mitigate the impact of climate change.

### A Threat on Many Fronts

States face economic, environmental and public health threats from global warming. As weather becomes more severe, such as prolonged droughts and heat waves, states will be exposed to myriad risks.

Heat waves are potentially deadly for the poor and elderly. According to the Illinois State Climatologist Office, "the heat wave in July 1995 in Chicago was one of the worst weather-related disasters in Illinois history, with approximately 525 deaths over a five-day period."

An unexpected or prolonged heat wave can seriously strain a state's ability to meet the public health emergency





on to the agreement are making a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012 through actions like increasing energy efficiency, reducing vehicle miles traveled, maintaining healthy urban forests, reducing sprawl and promoting use of clean, renewable energy resources.”

## Mandates for Action

States also are working to reduce greenhouse gases through mandates, economic incentives or some combination of the two. The more prominent mandates include establishing renewable electricity and energy efficiency standards (i.e. requiring a certain percentage of electric power generated must come from renewable energy sources and energy efficiency savings), setting product efficiency standards similar to Energy Star and controlling tail-pipe emissions.

California, for example, has signed a law that would require automobile manufacturers to cut motor vehicle emissions by 22 percent by 2012 and 30 percent by 2016. However, this law is pending a decision by the EPA. At least 11 other states are considering adopting the legislation, and Florida has recently done so.

According to Bill Prindle of the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE), energy efficiency resource standards—requiring utilities to meet a certain energy efficiency savings target—are considered the lowest-cost alternative to reducing carbon dioxide and have the potential to offset about 25 percent of demand. Energy efficiency is also the one resource available in every state.

In addition, according to a recent report by ACEEE and the American Council on Renewable Energy, enacting energy efficiency resource standards allows states time to increase renewable energy production.

## Incentives for Action

Economic incentives, as opposed to mandates, allow firms freedom of action in how they achieve GHG reductions. Firms choose the most cost-effective method, whether through technological innovation, increased efficiency or the purchase of credits or payment of taxes. The two principal economic incentives under consideration to reduce greenhouse

gas emissions are cap-and-trade programs and carbon taxes or carbon fees.

A cap-and-trade program limits the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions for the entire economy or a sector of the economy, typically electricity producers or fuel suppliers. Allowances equal to one unit of emissions (1 ton CO<sub>2</sub>) are allocated or sold (auctioned off), not to exceed the limit for that sector. Producers that can maximize efficiency and reduce their emissions would be able to trade their remaining allowances for a profit to producers that generated more emissions than their allowance. This gives firms flexibility in choosing how to meet the program goals. As circumstances dictate, the cap can be adjusted—raised or lowered—to meet future GHG targets.

Carbon taxes, meanwhile, do not set an absolute limit on the amount of emissions. Rather, they are based on a price per ton of carbon emitted. Producers then have a direct economic incentive to reduce their emissions by either becoming more efficient or creating/investing in new technologies. This allows firms to retain the funds that would otherwise have been spent on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

A key component of a carbon fee or tax, as well as the proceeds from an allowance auction, is that money collected by the government can be put back into the economy to help consumers and industries adjust to the economic hardships imposed by the fee. The challenge lies in setting an appropriate price for carbon. Too low a price might encourage continued pollution, while too high a price could prove detrimental to the economy. Also essential is determining whether allowances will be auctioned off or sold.

But economic incentives may not be enough to satisfy the public's desire for action on global warming. Recent research conducted by Stanford University, the nonprofit Resources For the Future and *New Scientist* magazine suggests that despite the effectiveness of carbon fees and cap-and-trade programs, the public is more supportive of mandates. Mandates are concrete and measurable, whereas economic incentives are more abstract and not guaranteed. Thus, the public is more skeptical of their effectiveness.

Research by the Pew Center suggests that a combination of economic incentives and mandates—for instance, combining emission reductions from power plants

with energy efficiency standards—may be the most politically feasible alternative for reducing GHG emissions.

## Time for Action

The need for action on climate change is clear. Devising the right program, however, is not as obvious. Thus it is important for legislators to carefully weigh the pros and cons of each proposal before making a decision.

And though there are costs associated with each of the major policies described above, the cost of inaction is far higher. A proactive approach to climate change by the states also may help spur federal action by making it easier to devise a national solution.

—Doug Myers is an energy and environment policy analyst with The Council of State Governments.

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The following Web sites offer a wealth of information related to climate change and energy:

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy  
<http://www.aceee.org/>

Analysis of energy efficiency policies and practices

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

Examines the science and impacts of climate change

Pew Center on Global Climate Change  
<http://www.pewclimate.org/>

Examines the science and impacts of climate change

Union of Concerned Scientists  
<http://www.ucsusa.org/>

In-depth information regarding state renewable electricity standards

U.S. Green Building Council  
<http://www.usgbc.org/>

All about green buildings

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